TWO NEW SPECIES OF AGERATINA (ASTERACEAE: EUPATORIEAE) FROM SOUTH-CENTRAL MÉXICO

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ABSTRACT

Two new species of Ageratina, A. chazaroana and A. perezii, belonging to the subgenus Ageratina, are described from the states of Veracruz and Morelos, México.

KEY WORDS: Asteraceae, Eupatorieae, Ageratina, México.

Identification of material for a treatment of the Asteraceae of México (Turner & Nesom, in prep.) has necessitated description of the following new species of Ageratina.

Ageratina chazaroana B. Turner, sp. nov. TYPE: MÉXICO. Veracruz: Mcpio. Coatepec, ca Tierra Grande, between Mesa de Los Laureles and Cuesto del Pino, 30 Aug 1986, M. Chazaro B. & P.H. de Charazo 3993-a (HOLOTYPE: TEX!; Isotypes: TEX!, WIS!, XAL!).

A. ciliatae (Less.) King & H. Robins. similis sed foliis sessilibus glabris et involucris glabris differt.

Erect perennial herbs, 30-60 cm high, the stems moderately pubescent with crinkled multiseptate trichomes and arising from slender rhizomes which presumably form colonies. Leaves opposite throughout, 3-5 cm long, 2-4 cm wide, sessile or nearly so; blades broadly ovate, 3-5 nervate from the base, sparsely pubescent along the veins, otherwise epunctate and glabrous. Heads 10-20 in rather congested terminal or subterminal corymbs, the ultimate peduncles mostly 1-5 mm long. Involucres 4-5 mm high, campanulate, the bracts biseriate, subequal, glabrous, except for the obtuse ciliate apices. Florets 15-25, corollas white, ca 3 mm long, the tube ca 1 mm long, the limb ampliate, ca 2 mm long, the lobes, at least some of them, with a few well developed erect trichomes. Achenes ca 1.5 mm long, sparsely hispid along the ribs, the pappus of ca 20 delicate bristles, ca 3 mm long, in a single series.

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The species belongs to the subgenus Ageratina, having the habit and stem pubescence of A. ciliata, but differs markedly from that species in having sessile, nearly glabrous, coarsely serrate leaves. It is named for its major collector, Miguel Charazo, prolific plant collector working out of XAL.

Ageratina perezii B. Turner, sp. nov. TYPE: MÉXICO. Morelos: Mcpio. Tepoztlan, ca 8.5 km N Santo Domingo Ocotitlan, ca 2870 m, "bosque de pino-encino con zacatonal," 11 Oct 1987, M.L. Espin, E. Cedillo, A. Villasenor & A. Vargas 259 (HOLOTYPE: TEX!; Isotype: CHAPA!).

A. parayanae (Espinosa) B. Turner similis sed differt foliis brevipetiolatis deltatis et capitulis in pedunculis longioribus in capitulescentia corymbosa terminali disposita.

Suffruticose perennial herb or shrub to 1.6 m high. Stems terete, striate, minutely pubescent with glandular, multiseptate trichomes, 0.5 mm long or less. Leaves opposite or subopposite below, those along the upper portions of the stem clearly alternate or subopposite, 5-12 cm long, 4-8 cm wide; petioles thick, 5-12 mm long; blades deltoid, 3 nervate from the base, sparsely pubescent above and below, the margins rather evenly crenulate. Heads numerous, arranged in rather strict, broad, flat topped, terminal cymes, the ultimate peduncles densely glandular pubescent, 1-2 cm long. Involucres 9-10 mm high, the bracts 13-15, linear lanceolate, glandular pubescent, the apices acute. Florets 20-50; corollas white, 5-6 mm long, the lobes ca 0.5 mm long, decidedly pubescent with 2 or more multiseptate trichomes. Achenes linear, ca 4 mm long, appressed hispidulous, the pappus uniseriate, of 30-40 white bristles, mostly 5-6 mm long.

According to label data, the species is an erect shrub to 1.6 m high, much branched from the base, the florets white and involucral bracts coffee red. It is said to be abundant in clearings of the forest.

Ageratina perezii is superficially similar to A. cardiophylla (B.L. Robins.) King & H. Robins., but the latter is quite distinct, possessing mostly cordate leaves with much longer petioles, and belongs to the subgenus Neogreenella (sensu King & Robinson 1987), whilst the former belongs to the subgenus Ageratina, where it apparently relates to A. parayana (Espinosa) B. Turner. The latter taxon is readily distinguished by its longer petioles and smaller heads on shorter ultimate peduncles.

It is a pleasure to name this taxon for José Garcia Pérez, long time herbarium assistant at CHAPA and dedicated worker on Mexican composites.

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LITERATURE CITED

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